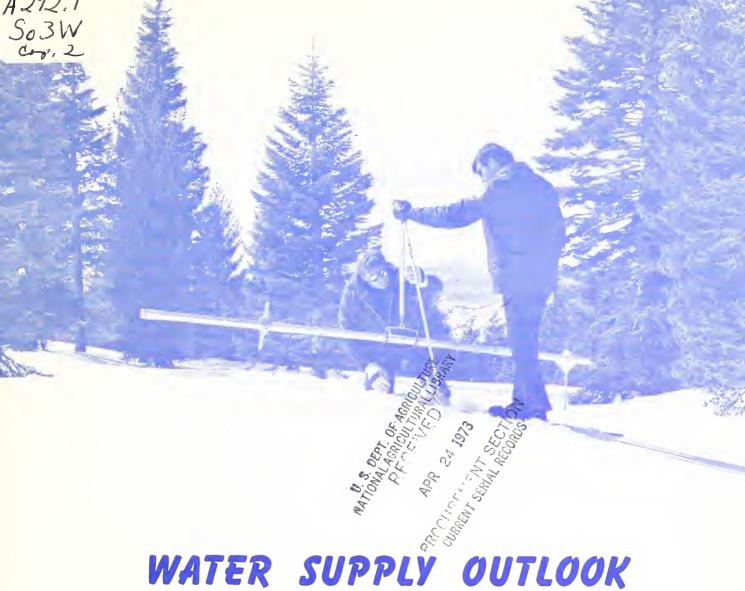
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# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR WESTERN UNITED STATES

Including Columbia River Drainage in Canada

Prepared by

## U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Collaborating with
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT of WATER RESOURCES
and

BRITISH COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT of LANDS, FORESTS and WATER RESOURCES

APR. 1, 1973

#### TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states ariginates as mountain snowfall. This snawfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several manths before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates af snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance af its occurrence. Streamflow farecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent af the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snaw accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect an runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snaw caurse measurement is obtained by sampling snaw depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked lacations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each lacation. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made manthly ar semi-manthly fram January 1 through June 1 in mast states. There are about 1900 snaw caurses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks af automatic snaw water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radia telemetry are expanding and will provide a cantinuous record of snaw water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow caurse and sail maisture measurements are presented in state and lacal reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and sail maisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply autlook conditions, including selected streamflow farecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and starage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 af each year.

#### PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports fallowing the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be abtained from Soil Conservation Service, Western Regional Technical Service Center, Room 209, 511 N. W. Broadway, Partland, Oregon 97209.

Capies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Sail Conservation Service in the following states:

| STATE              | ADDRESS   |
|--------------------|---|
| Alaska             | 204 E. 5th. Ave., Raam 217, Ancharage, Alaska 99501                 |
| Arizana            | 6029 Federal Building, Phaenix, Arizona 85025                       |
| Colarado (N. Mex.) | P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorada 80217                             |
| Idaha              | Raam 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702                       |
| Montana            | P. O. Box 970, Bozeman, Mantana 59715                               |
| Nevada             | P. O. Bax 4850, Rena Nevada 89505                                   |
| Oregon             | 1218 S. W. Washington St., Partland, Oregon 97205                   |
| Utah               | 4012 Federal Bldg., 125 Sauth State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 |
| Washingtan         | 360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washingtan 99201                     |
| Wyoming            | P. O. Bax 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601                               |

#### PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlaak reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snaw Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Bax 388, Sacramenta, California 95802 --- and far British Calumbia by the Department of Lands, Farests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia

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# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR WESTERN UNITED STATES

Including Columbia River Drainage in Canada

ISSUED

APRIL 1, 1973

The Soil Conservation Service coordinates snow surveys conducted by its staff and many cooperators, including the Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, Forest Service, National Park Service, NOAA, National Weather Service, Geological Survey, and other Federal Agencies, Departments of State Government, Irrigation Districts, Power Companies, and others.

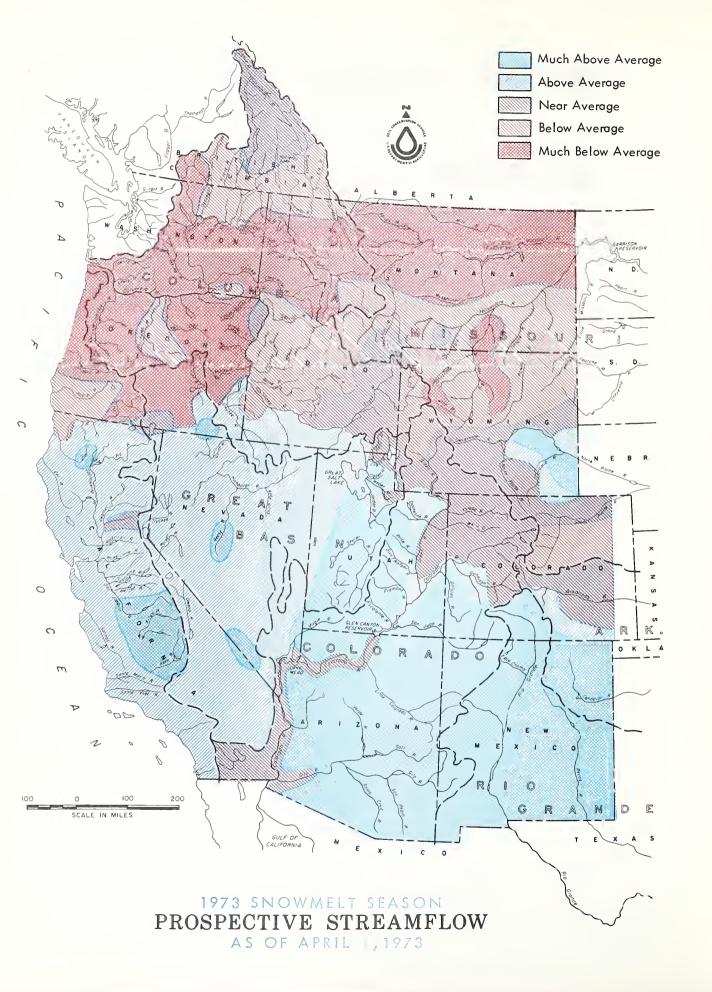
The Department of Water Resources coordinates snow surveys in California.

The Water Resources Service, Department of Lands. Forests, and Water Resources directs snow surveys in British Columbia.

This report was prepared by the Water Supply Forecasting Unit, Engineering Division, Soil Conservation Service, from data supplied by Snow Survey Supervisors of the Soil Conservation Service in the States of Alaska, Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Data from California was supplied by the Chief, Water Supply Forecast and Snow Survey Unit, Department of Water Resources.

Data from British Columbia was supplied by the Chief, llydrology Division, Water Investigations Branch, Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources.



### WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

1973 SNOWMELT SEASON APRIL 1, 1973

MOST MAJOR IRRIGATED AREAS OF THE WEST WILL HAVE REASON-ABLY SATISFACTORY TO EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLIES FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES. ABOVE NORMAL RESERVOIR STORAGE TO PARTLY OFFSET LOW STREAMFLOW IN NORTHWESTERN STATES. WATER USER WITHOUT ADEQUATE STORAGE WILL EXPERIENCE SHORTAGES IN MANY AREAS OF OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, MONTANA, AND WYOMING. FROM TWICE TO OVER FIVE TIMES NORMAL STREAMFLOW EXPECTED FROM SOME WATERSHEDS IN ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO, SOUTHWEST COLORADO, UTAH, NEVADA, AND CALIFORNIA.

In many areas March weather accentuated the already existing snowpack conditions in the western states, continuing the low northwestern snowpacks while causing heavy additional build-up on southwestern watersheds. Irrigation water shortages are highly probable for many smaller areas in Oregon, Washington, central and northern Idaho, Montana and northern Wyoming, unless spring and summer months are exceptionally wet.

Fortunately, in the drier areas the carryover storage in irrigation reservoirs is generally above average as a result of last year's heavy streamflow. To a large degree this will offset the effects of the low runoff that is anticipated this season. Critical shortages may be experienced, however, by those who obtain their water supplies by direct diversion from the streams.

March snowfall in the mountains was two to five times greater than average in many parts of Arizona, New Mexico and southern sections of Utah and Nevada, and southwestern Colorado. In the Lower Colorado River Basin, flow of streams in Arizona and from Utah's Virgin River and adjacent smaller streams is expected to be from two to over five times normal amounts. In this same southern area, the Rio Grande Basin also has one of its highest snowpacks of record. Flow of the Rio Grande and other streams in New Mexico is forecast at one and a half to over three times their normal amounts.

Snow cover in the upper Colorado River Basin is near 15 to 20 percent above normal, but ranges from a low of 77 percent on the upper Green River in Wyoming to a high of 163 percent on the Dolores River in southwest Colorado. Inflow to Lake Powell for the April-July period is forecast at 118 percent.

Outlook for the Arkansas Basin is good to excellent, with stream forecasts ranging near 10 to 15 percent above average, except on the Cucharas where the flow is expected to be about

two-thirds more than usual. Flow of the Canadian River will also be much above average.

The Great Basin will experience excellent water supplies, except for a small area in southern Oregon. Damaging high flows are possible on some streams in Utah, particularly from lower elevation watersheds.

The California Department of Water Resources, reports that adequate water supplies will be available throughout the State this year. Precipitation continued to be heavy in the central portion of the State during March and the already above normal snow water content was boosted to even greater amounts in most watersheds. Water year runoff to date has generally been above average. Reservoir storage on April 1 is average or above for this date except in the Lahontan area and in the San Joaquin Valley. Forecasts of runoff show that above average reservoir inflows will be forthcoming in all river basins.

Except in southern Idaho, extreme southeastern Oregon and northern Nevada, runoff forecasts for streams in the United State's portion of the Columbia Basin vary between about one-half to three-fourths of normal. The British Columbia Water Resources Service reports that flow of British Columbia streams will vary from about 80 to 95 percent of average, except on the Similkameen River where 60 to 65 percent of average flow is expected. Highest forecast is for 95 percent for the inflow to Duncan Reservoir.

Similar to the Columbia Basin, it is anticipated that most streams in the Missouri Basin will yield from one-half to three-fourths of normal supplies. Flow of most streams in Montana will be similar to that in the low runoff years of the early 1960's. In Wyoming, flow of the Wind River near Dubois is expected to set a new low for its period of record. March storms improved the outlook for the Black Hills from much below average, to below average.

| MAJOR BASIN<br>AND                            | MAJOR BASIN<br>AND | IN PERCI   |   |              |            |  |
|---|--------------------|------------|---|--------------|------------|--|
| SUB - WATERSHED                               | LAST YEAR          | AVERAGE    | SUB — WATERSHED   | LAST YEAR    | AVERAGE    |  |
| MISSOURI BASIN<br>Jefferson                   | 59                 | 85         | SNAKE BASIN Snake above Jackson, Wyo.                     | 58           | 77         |  |
| Madison<br>Gallatin                           | 73<br>79           | 86<br>85   | Snake above Hiese, Idaho Snake abv. American Falls Res    | 59<br>66     | 78<br>82   |  |
| Missouri Main Stem<br>Yellowstone             | 50<br>61           | 72<br>79   | Henry's Fork Southern IdahoTributaries                    | 75<br>85     | 87<br>120  |  |
| Shoshone                                      | 53                 | 75         | Big and Little Wood                                       | 83           | 81         |  |
| Wind<br>North Platte                          | 55<br>101          | 76<br>106  | Boise<br>Owyhee   | 53<br>120    | 73<br>135  |  |
| South Platte                                  | 92                 | 86         | Payette<br>Malheur  | 63<br>75     | 75<br>75   |  |
| ARKANSAS BASIN                                |                    |            | Weiser<br>Burnt   | 72           | 90<br>65   |  |
| Arkansas                                      | 106                | 100        | Powder  | 60<br>60     | 75         |  |
| Cucharas-Purgatoire                           | 427                | 163        | Salmon<br>Grande Ronde                                    | 60<br>35     | 75<br>35   |  |
| RIO GRANDE BASIN                              |                    |            | Clearwater  | 44           | 60         |  |
| Rio Grande (Colo.)<br>Rio Grande (New Mexico) | 219<br>810         | 148<br>221 | LOWER COLUMBIA BASIN                                      |              |            |  |
| Pecos   |                    | 531        | Yakima<br>Umatilla  | 36           | 52         |  |
| COLORADO BASIN                                |                    |            | John Day  | 35<br>65     | 45<br>65   |  |
| Green (Wyo.)                                  | 54                 | 77         | Deschutes - Crooked<br>Hood                               | 63<br>35     | 68<br>45   |  |
| Yampa - White Duchesne                        | 98<br>123          | 91<br>116  | Willamette<br>Lewis                                       | 35<br>34     | 45<br>44   |  |
| Price<br>Upper Colorado                       | 222                | 123<br>96  | Cowlitz   | 36           | 51         |  |
| Gunnison                                      | 101<br>144         | 115        | PACIFIC COASTAL BASIN                                     |              |            |  |
| San Juan<br>Dolores                           | 243<br>302         | 141<br>163 | Puget Sound   | 38           | 51         |  |
| Virgin<br>Gila                                | 872                | 228<br>330 | Olympic Peninsula<br>Umpqua - Rogue                       | 59<br>50     | 65<br>65   |  |
| Salt  |                    | 489        | Klamath<br>Trinity  | 70<br>215    | 60<br>140  |  |
| GREAT BASIN                                   |                    |            |   | 210          | 110        |  |
| Bear<br>Logan                                 | 84<br>63           | 102<br>83  | CALIFORNIA<br>CENTRAL VALLEY                              |              |            |  |
| Ogden   | 128                | 162        | Upper Sacramento  | 145          | 125        |  |
| Weber<br>Provo - Utah Lake                    | 96<br>148          | 109<br>128 | Feather<br>Yuba   | 310<br>180   | 155<br>125 |  |
| Jordan<br>Sevier                              | 101<br>277         | 111<br>156 | American<br>Mokelumne                                     | 160<br>195   | 120<br>135 |  |
| Walker - Carson<br>Tahoe - Truckee            | 215<br>162         | 133<br>122 | Stanislaus<br>Tuolumne                                    | 210<br>190   | 135<br>125 |  |
| Humboldt                                      | 176                | 148        | Merced  | 225          | 135<br>140 |  |
| Lake Co. (Oregon)<br>Harney Basin (Oregon)    | 150<br>100         | 85<br>110  | San Joaquin<br>Kings                                      | 255<br>390   | 175        |  |
|   |                    |            | Kaweah<br>Tule  | 780<br>2,400 | 195<br>240 |  |
| UPPER COLUMBIA BASIN<br>Columbia (Canada)     | 63                 | 88         | Kern<br>Owens   | 720          | 180<br>145 |  |
| Kootenai                                      | 52                 | 72         | Data for California Watershe of Water Resources, and for  | ds supplied  | by Dept.   |  |
| Clark Fork<br>Bitterroot                      | 45<br>45           | 66<br>70   | Watersheds by Dept. of Lands Resources.                   | s, Forests a | nd Water   |  |
| Flathead<br>Spokane                           | 53<br>36           | 74<br>50   | Average is for 1953-67 period                             | -/ Califo    | rnia       |  |
| Okanogan<br>Methow                            | 54<br>52           | 78<br>79   | averages are for the per<br>Based on Selected Snow Course | iod 1931-7   | 0.         |  |
| Chelan<br>Wenatchee                           | 45<br>30           | 72<br>49   | tribution within the Basin, Repetitive Monthly Measuremen | Length of Re | cord and   |  |

The North Platte River will yield a near normal water supply, while the South Platte will fall 10 to 20 percent short of the usual flow.

#### MISSOURI BASIN

Although near or above average snowmelt runoff is expected from the North Platte River and its tributaries in Colorado and Wyoming, and from Montana's upper Red Rock, Madison and Ruby rivers, most other streams in the Missouri River Basin are expected to yield from onehalf to three-fourths of normal supplies.

Moving south from the Canadian border along the Continental Divide, the snow on the headwaters of the Milk, Marias, Teton, Sun and Dearborn rivers has one of the lowest snowpacks in recent years. Comparable to such low years as 1960, 1961 and 1963, it is only slightly more than a half of the normal pack. Snow is near three-fourths of average on the Missouri main stem, the Yellowstone and Judith-Musselshell watersheds. In contrast, a near or above average snowpack lies on the extreme headwaters of the Madison and Red Rock rivers and on the Gravelly Mountains.

In Wyoming the snow is near three-fourths average on the upper Yellowstone, Shoshone and Wind rivers, and in the Big Horn Mountains. The snowpack improved during March in the Big Horn Mountains and in the Black Hills.

On the North Platte River snow cover is slightly above average, but near 15 percent below average on the South Platte. Snowpack build-up was heavy on Wyoming's Casper Mountain and Laramie Range.

Montana's Sun, Marias, Teton, Dearborn, Belt and Musselshell rivers can be expected to flow at 40 to 60 percent of their normal amounts, comparable to low runoff of 1963. Except for the upper Red Rock, Madison and Ruby rivers, other Montana streams should yield near 60 to 80 percent of average flows.

With the exception of the upper Wind River (low runoff), and the Little Popo Agie near Lander (slightly above normal), streamflow to come from Wyoming's Clark's Fork, Shoshone, Bighorn rivers and their tributaries, as well as other streams heading in the Big Horn Mountains is expected to range from about 60 to 80 percent of average. Unless April and May precipitation is considerably above normal, this runoff will be far from adequate to meet the needs of farms and ranches that require diversion above reservoirs.

Flow of the Wind River near Dubois is expected to be an all time low for the period of record. The forecast is for a discharge of 46 percent normal.

Streams coming from Casper Mountain and the Laramie Range are expected to yield as much as double their usual flows. The main North Platte and its other tributaries will flow at near normal amounts, while the South Platte and its tributaries should produce near 10 to 20 percent less than average.

Carryover reservoir storage is 111 percent average in Montana, 83 percent average on Wyoming's Wind River, 173 on the North Platte, 128 percent on Colorado's South Platte, and 170 percent in Belle Fourche.

#### ARKANSAS BASIN

Snowfall during March storms brought improvement in the runoff prospects for the main Arkansas River and the Purgatoire. Snow was particularly heavy on headwaters of the Cucharas, nearly doubling the expected runoff since last month.

If spring and summer precipitation are near normal, flow of the Arkansas at Salida should be near 13 percent above the average amount. Runoff from the Purgatoire is expected to be similar and is forecast at 9 percent above average. The heavy snowpack on the Cucharas is expected to yield near two-thirds more than its usual amount. Flow of the Canadian River in New Mexico should also be much above normal.

Storage in John Martin Reservoir is 80 percent average. In New Mexico on the Canadian River, storage in Conchas Reservoir is 90 percent of its usual amount.

Soil moisture conditions are excellent in the valleys, good in the mountains.

#### RIO GRANDE BASIN

The Rio Grande Basin now has one of its highest snowpacks of record, with some snow courses showing more snow water than at any time since snow surveys were started in 1937. The snow ranges from about 50 percent above average in Colorado to over twice normal on the New Mexico tributaries. On the Pecos River it is more than five times the usual amount.

The Rio Grande near Del Norte, Colorado is expected to flow at 48 percent more than normal, while at Otowi Bridge, New Mexico it will be near two-thirds above average. Inflow to the river system from the Chama River should be near 54 percent above normal, with a little less -- 38 percent above -- expected from the Conejos River. The water yield of the Pecos River will be much higher, a little more than double its normal flow.

Carryover storage in Elephant Butte is 12

| STREAM AND STATION   | FORECASTS THIS YEAR     |                       | Forecast Period              | Last Year's<br>od Flow In |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| STREAT TAILS   | Flow În<br>(1,000 A.F.) | Percent of<br>Average | Forecast Feriod              | (1,000 A.F.)              |  |  |
| SASKATCHEWAN   |                         |                       |                              | -                         |  |  |
| t. Mary near Babb, Montana 1/  | 390                     | <b>7</b> 9            | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| -  |                         |                       |                              |                           |  |  |
| UPPER MISSOURI   | 00                      | 7.0                   |                              | 007                       |  |  |
| eaverhead near Grant, Montana <u>2</u> /   | 80                      | 76<br>70              | April-Sept.                  | 207                       |  |  |
| ig Hole near Melrose, Montana  | 480                     | 70                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| efferson at Silver Star, Montana   | 590                     | 68<br>99              | April-Sept.                  | 626                       |  |  |
| adison near Grayling, Montana 3/   | 425<br>395              | 99<br>86              | April-Sept. April-Sept.      | 020                       |  |  |
| allatin near Gateway, Montana<br>un at Gibson Dam, Montana 4/                                    | 350                     | 58                    | April-Sept.                  | 749                       |  |  |
| elt near Monarch, Montana  | 55                      | 50                    | April-Sept.                  | 743                       |  |  |
| arias near Shelby, Montana 5/  | 260                     | 43                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| issouri near Landusky, Montana 6/  | 2,450                   | 55                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| near Williston, North Dakota 7/  | 6,500                   | 59                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| . Fk. Musselshell above Martinsdale, Montana   | 93                      | 50                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| ilk at Eastern Crossing, Montana   | 195                     | 74                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| ellowstone at Yellowstone Lake Outlet, Wyo.  | 585                     | 70                    | April-Oct.                   | 1,111                     |  |  |
| at Corwin Springs, Montana   | 1,560                   | 83                    | April-Sept.                  | 2,349                     |  |  |
| at Miles City, Montana <u>8</u> /  | 4,150                   | 71                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| larks Fork near Belfry, Montana  | 455                     | 78                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| noshone below Buffalo Bill Res., Wyo. <u>9</u> /   | 590                     | 73                    | April-Sept.                  | 894                       |  |  |
| ind near Dubois, Wyoming   | 46                      | 46                    | April-Sept.                  | 150                       |  |  |
| at Riverton, Wyoming <u>10</u> /   | 340                     | 52                    | April-Sept.                  | 879                       |  |  |
| below Boysen Res., Wyoming 11/   | 525                     | 69                    | April-Sept.                  | 014                       |  |  |
| ull Lake Creek near Lenore, Wyoming  | 134                     | 75                    | April-Sept.                  | 214                       |  |  |
| ittle Popo Agie near Lander, Wyoming   | 46                      | 108                   | April-Sept.                  | 61                        |  |  |
| ensleep near Tensleep, Wyoming   | 52                      | 70                    | April-Sept.                  | 92<br>22.                 |  |  |
| edicine Lodge near Hyattville, Wyoming   | 12.4                    | 63<br>65              | April-Sept.                  | 81                        |  |  |
| hell Creek near Shell, Wyoming   | 43                      | 64                    | April-Sept.  <br>April-Sept. | 2,153                     |  |  |
| ig Horn near St. Xavier 8/   | 1,100<br>85             | 83                    | April-Sept.                  | 109                       |  |  |
| ongue near Dayton, Wyoming   | 5.9                     | 63                    | April-Sept.                  | 7,                        |  |  |
| o. Fork Powder near Hazelton, Wyoming  | 5.9                     | 03                    | April-Sept.                  | / •                       |  |  |
| PLATTE   |                         |                       |                              |                           |  |  |
| orth Platte at Saratoga, Wyoming   | 560                     | 101                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| ncampment near Encampment, Wyoming   | 136                     | 107                   | April-Sept.                  | 131                       |  |  |
| aramie Riv. & Pioneer Canal, nr Woods, Wyo. <u>12</u> /  | 119                     | 101                   | April-Sept.                  | 114                       |  |  |
| ig Thompson at Drake, Colorado 13/   | 82                      | 82                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| lear at Golden, Colorado <u>14</u> /   | 95                      | 80                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| t. Vrain at Lyons, Colorado <u>15</u> /  | 55                      | 70                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| ache La Poudre near Fort Collins, Colorado 16/   | 200                     | 93                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| ADVANCAC   |                         |                       |                              |                           |  |  |
| ARKANSAS   | 350                     | 113                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| rkansas at Salida, Colorado <u>17</u> /<br>utharas near LaVeta, Colorado                         | 20                      | 167                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| urgatoire at Trinidad, Colorado  | 50<br>50                | 107                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| n gatorie at ir iniuau, cororauo   | 50                      | 103                   | 1. p. 11-3cpt.               |                           |  |  |
| RIO GRANDE   |                         |                       |                              |                           |  |  |
| o Grande near Del Norte, Colorado 18/  | 650                     | 148                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| at Otowi Bridge, New Mexico 19/  | 850                     | 166                   | March-July                   |                           |  |  |
| onejos near Mogote, Colorado 20/   | 252                     | 138                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| l Vado Res., Inflow, New Mexico  | 290                     | 154                   | March-July                   |                           |  |  |
| ecos at Pecos, New Mexico  | 87                      | 212                   | March-July                   |                           |  |  |
| HDDED 00102420   |                         |                       |                              |                           |  |  |
| UPPER COLORADO   | 000                     | 0.1                   | Annil C                      |                           |  |  |
| olorado, Grandby Res. Inflow, Colorado <u>21</u> /   | 200                     | 91                    | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| near Dotsero, Colorado 22/   | 1,400                   | 102                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |
| near Cameo, Colorado 23/   | 2,250                   | 99                    | April-Sept.                  | 1 504                     |  |  |
| near Cisco, Utah 24/   | 3,417                   | 122                   | April-July                   | 1,594                     |  |  |
| Lake Powell Inflow, Arizona <u>25</u> /<br>oaring Fork at Glenwood Springs, Colorado <u>26</u> / | 7,683<br>725            | 118<br>105            | April-July<br>April-Sept.    | 5,578                     |  |  |
| paring fork at Glenwood Springs, Colorado 26/1   | / 40                    | 128                   | April-Sept.                  |                           |  |  |

Forecasts in California provided by Department of Water Resources. Average is for 1953–67 period except California. California is computed for 1921–70 period. Forecasts assume average Effective Climate Conditions from Date Through Snow Melt Season.

| STREAM AND STATION   | FORECASTS THIS YEAR     |                       | Forecast Period           | Last Year's<br>Flow In  |  |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| STREAM AND STATION   | Flow In<br>(1,000 A.F.) | Percent of<br>Average | Forecast Feriod           | Flow In<br>(1,000 A.F.) |  |
| UPPER COLORADO (continued)   |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| Gunnison, Blue Mesa Res. Inflow, Colorado 27/  | 785                     | 102                   | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
|  |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| near Grand Junction, Colorado <u>28</u> /  | 1,350                   | 119                   | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| Dolores at Dolores, Colorado   | 335                     | 145                   | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| Green at Warren Bridge, Wyoming  | 252                     | 78                    | April-Sept.               | 431                     |  |
| at Green River, Wyoming 29/  | 724                     | 77                    | April-Sept.               | 1,645                   |  |
| Flaming Gorge Res. Inflow, Utah 27/  | 955                     | 91                    | April-July                | 1,967                   |  |
| at Green River, Utah 30/   | 2,543                   | 99                    | April-July                | 2,030                   |  |
|  | 28.2                    | 82                    | April-Sept.               | 51                      |  |
| orth Piney at Mason, Wyoming   |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| ig Sandy near Big Sandy, Wyoming   | 57                      | 108                   | April-Sept.               | 82                      |  |
| ampa at Steamboat Springs, Colorado  | 250                     | 96                    | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| near Maybell, Colorado   | 800                     | 94                    | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| ittle Snake near Dixon, Wyoming  | 233                     | 90                    | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| nite near Meeker, Colorado   | 278                     | 95                    | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| trawberry at Duchesne, Utah 40/  | 69                      | 140                   | April-July                |                         |  |
|  |                         | 127                   |                           |                         |  |
| uchesne near Tabiona, Utah 31/   | 120                     |                       | April-July                |                         |  |
| at Randlett, Utah 40/  | 350                     | 134                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| akefork below Moon Lake, Utah <u>32</u> /  | 75                      | 114                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| inta near Neola, Utah  | 93                      | 118                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| niterocks near Whiterocks, Utah  | 58                      | 114                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| rice, Scofield Res. Inflow, Utah 33/   | 43                      | 136                   | April-July                | 19                      |  |
| ottonwood near Orangeville, Utah 34/   | 50                      | 114                   | April-July                | 33                      |  |
|  |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| an Juan, Navajo Res. Inflow, New Mexico <u>27</u> /  | 950                     | 153                   | April-July                | 259                     |  |
| near Bluff, Utah <u>35</u> /   | 1,362                   | 153                   | April-July                | 276                     |  |
| nimas at Durango, Colorado   | 570                     | 142                   | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| LOWER COLORADO   |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| irgin near Virgin, Utah  | 90                      | 237                   | April-June                |                         |  |
| ittle Colorado above Lyman, Arizona  | 21                      | 344                   | April-June                | 0                       |  |
|  |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| ila near Solomon, Arizona  | 150                     | 434                   | April-May                 | 8                       |  |
| risco at Clifton, Arizona  | 75                      | 397                   | April-May                 | 4                       |  |
| alt at Intake, Arizona   | 525                     | 431                   | April-May                 | 24                      |  |
| onto above Roosevelt, Arizona  | 47                      | 610                   | April-May                 | 0                       |  |
| erde above Horseshoe Dam, Arizona  | 200                     | 400                   | April-May                 | 19                      |  |
| GREAT BASIN  |                         | 100                   | [, priii ilay             | 10                      |  |
|  | 108                     | 102                   | Appil luly                |                         |  |
| ear at Utah-Wyo. State Line  |                         |                       | April-July                |                         |  |
| at Harer, Idaho  | 260                     | 115                   | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| mith's Fork near Border, Wyoming   | 105                     | 97                    | April-Sept.               | 175                     |  |
| nomas Fork near WyoIda. State Line   | 29                      | 92                    | April-Sept.               | 59                      |  |
| ogan near Logan, Utah 36/  | 100                     | 101                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| gden, Pine View Res. Inflow, Utah 27/  | 145                     | 161                   | April-June                | 136                     |  |
|  | 100                     | 108                   |                           | 115                     |  |
| eber near Oakley, Utah   |                         |                       | April-June                | 113                     |  |
| rovo near Hailstone, Utah 37/  | 101                     | 117                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| trawberry Res. Inflow, Utah  | 55                      | 135                   | April-July                | 38                      |  |
| tah Lake Net Inflow, Utah  | 240                     | 123                   | April-July                | 204                     |  |
| ig Cottonwood near Salt Lake City, Utah  | 37                      | 109                   | April-July                | 40                      |  |
| eaver near Beaver, Utah  | 27                      | 144                   | April-July                | 6                       |  |
| evier near Hatch, Utah   | 65                      | 197                   | April-July                | O                       |  |
| ·  |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| near Gunnison, Utah  | 55                      | 177                   | April-July                |                         |  |
| o. Fork Humboldt near Elko, Nevada   | 75                      | 130                   | April-July                | 41                      |  |
| umboldt at Palisades, Nevada   | 209                     | 136                   | April-July                | 139                     |  |
| ruckee at Farad, California 38/  | 310                     | 120                   | April-July                | 164                     |  |
| ast Carson near Gardnerville, Nevada   | 208                     | 119                   | April-July                | 134                     |  |
| est Carson at Woodsfords, California   | 58                      | 114                   | April-July                | 39                      |  |
|  |                         |                       |                           |                         |  |
| ast Walker near Bridgeport, California 39/   | 75                      | 125                   | April-August              | 31                      |  |
| est Walker near Coleville, California  | 168                     | 117                   | April-July                | 108                     |  |
| onner und Blitzen near Frenchglen, Oregon  | 60                      | 109                   | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
|  | 43                      | 52                    | April-Sept.               |                         |  |
| ilvies near Burns. Oregon  |                         |                       | April-Sept.               | 82                      |  |
| ilvies near Burns, Oregon  | 50                      | L LU                  |                           | ()/                     |  |
| ilvies near Burns, Oregon<br>hewaucan near Paisley, Oregon   | 50                      | 59                    |                           | 02                      |  |
| ilvies near Burns, Oregon<br>hewaucan near Paisley, Oregon<br>eep above Adel, Oregon   | 66                      | 101                   | April-Sept.               | 02                      |  |
| ilvies near Burns, Oregon<br>hewaucan near Paisley, Oregon<br>eep above Adel, Oregon<br>idwell near Ft. Bidwell, California  | 66<br>12.5              | 10 1<br>10 9          | April-Sept.<br>April-July | 02                      |  |
| ilvies near Burns, Oregon<br>Hewaucan near Paisley, Oregon<br>Deep above Adel, Oregon<br>Hidwell near Ft. Bidwell, California<br>Wens below Long Valley Res., California | 66                      | 10 1<br>10 9          | April-Sept.               | 02                      |  |

Forecusts in California provided by Department of Water Resources.

Average is for 1953–67 period except California. California is computed for 1921–70 period.

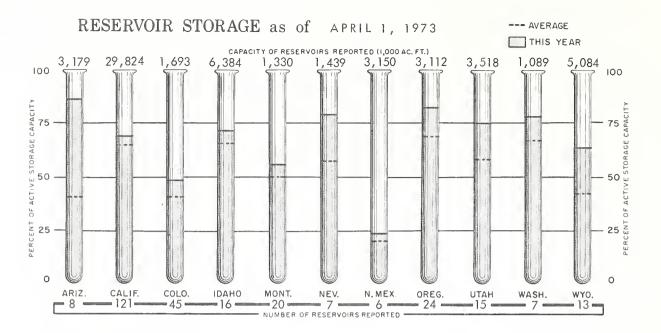
Forecasts assume average Effective Climate Conditions from Date Through Snow Melt Season.

| STREAM AND STATION  | FORECASTS T             |                       | Forecast Period         | Last Year's<br>Flow In |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Flow In<br>(1,000 A.F.) | Percent of<br>Average | T brecast r eriod       | (1,000 A.F.)           |
| LIDDED COLLIMDIA  |                         |                       |                         |                        |
| UPPER COLUMBIA<br>Columbia at Birchbank, British Columbia 40/         | /11 260                 | 00                    | Annil Cont              | E2 E00                 |
|   | 41,360                  | 89                    | April-Sept.             | 52,590                 |
| at Grand Coulee, Washington 40/                                       | 58,500                  | 84                    | April-Sept.             | 83,880                 |
| below Rock Island, Washington   | 61,900                  | 81                    | April-Sept.             | 98,040                 |
| Kootenai at Libby, Montana  | 6,650                   | 83                    | April-Sept.             | 9,929                  |
| at Leonia, Idaho  | 7,400                   | 81                    | April-Sept.             | 11,041                 |
| Blackfoot near Bonner, Montana  | 660                     | 66                    | April-Sept.             | 1,429                  |
| So. Fk. Flathead nr Columbia Falls, Montana <u>40</u> /               | 1,600                   | 68                    | April-Sept.             | 2,850                  |
| Flathead at Columbia Falls, Montana 40/                               | 4,600                   | 71                    | April-Sept.             | 7,821                  |
| near Polson, Montana 40/  | 5,350                   | 69                    | April-Sept.             | 9,182                  |
| Clark Fork above Missoula, Montana                                    | 1,260                   | 71                    | April-Sept.             | 2,430                  |
| near Plains, Montana 40/  | 8,500                   | 68                    | April-Sept.             | 16,073                 |
| at Whitehorse Rapids, Idaho   | 9,400                   | 67                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Bitterroot near Darby, Montana  | 365                     | 65                    | April-Sept.             | 726                    |
| Priest near Priest River, Idaho 41/                                   | 650                     | 71                    | April-July              | 960                    |
| Pend Oreille below Box Canyon, Washington                             | 10,900                  | 68                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Kettle near Laurier, Washington                                       | 15,500                  | 81                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Spokane at Post Falls, Idaho 42/                                      | 1,650                   | 53                    | April-Sept.             | 3,971                  |
| Similkameen near Nighthawk, Washington                                | 1,110                   | 73                    | April-Sept.             | 3,971                  |
|   |                         | 73                    | Inpili-sept.            |                        |
| Okanogan near Tonasket, Washington<br>Methow near Pateros, Washington | 1,270<br>680            | 65                    | April-Sept.             | 3,824                  |
|   |                         |                       | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Stehekin at Stehekin, Washington                                      | 650                     | 72                    | April-Sept.             | 1 005                  |
| Chelan at Chelan, Washington 43/                                      | 875                     | .69                   | April-Sept.             | 1,965                  |
| Wenatchee at Peshastin, Washington                                    | 1,230                   | 68                    | April-Sept.             | 2,808                  |
| OHAVE   | ,                       |                       |                         |                        |
| SNAKE   |                         |                       |                         |                        |
| Snake above Palisades Res., Wyoming 44/                               | 1,980                   | 77                    | April-Sept.             | 3,504                  |
| near Heise, Idaho <u>45</u> /   | 3,100                   | 83                    | April-Sept.             | 5,309                  |
| near Blackfoot, Idaho <u>46</u> /                                     | 3,200                   | 83                    | April-July              | 6,140                  |
| at Weiser, Idaho  | 4,350                   | 69                    | April-Sept.             | 8,703                  |
| Grey's above Palisade, Wyoming  | 355                     | 98                    | April-Sept.             | 556                    |
| Salt above Palisade, Wyoming  | 330                     | 103                   | April-Sept.             | 575                    |
| Henry's Fork near Ashton, Idaho 47/                                   | 580                     | 95                    | April-Sept.             | 820                    |
| Teton near St. Anthony, Idaho   | 385                     | 98                    | April-Sept.             | 568                    |
| Blackfoot Reservoir Inflow, Idaho                                     | 107                     | 105                   | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Big Lost near MacKay, Idaho 48/                                       | 150                     | 89                    | April-Sept.             | 177                    |
| Portneuf at Topaz, Idaho  | 83                      | 105                   | March-Sept.             | 164                    |
| Salmon Falls Creek nr San Jacinto, Idaho                              | 80                      | 115                   | March-Sept.             | 139                    |
| Big Wood, Inflow to Magic Res., Idaho 49/                             | 195                     | 74                    | April-Sept.             | 294                    |
| Bruneau near Hot Springs, Idaho                                       | 220                     | 115                   | March-Sept.             | 257                    |
|   | 1,250                   | 80                    | April-Sept.             | 2,233                  |
| Boise near Boise, Idaho <u>50</u> /                                   |                         |                       |                         | 2,233                  |
| Jordan near Jordan Valley, Oregon                                     | 73                      | 87                    | April-July              | 86                     |
| Owyhee near Owyhee, Nevada 51/  | 72                      | 120                   | April-July              |                        |
| Owyhee Res. Net Inflow, Oregon 27/                                    | 346                     | 115                   | April-Sept.             | 363                    |
| Malheur near Drewsey, Oregon  | 41                      | 57                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Payette near Horseshoe Bend, Idaho 52/                                | 1,475                   | 80                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Weiser above Crane Creek, Idaho <u>40</u> /                           | 450                     | 89                    | March-Sept.             |                        |
| Burnt near Hereford, Oregon 40/                                       | 17.4                    |                       | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Powder near Sumpter, Oregon   | 33                      | 59                    | April-Sept.             | 1                      |
| Eagle above Skull Creek, Oregon                                       | 175                     | 96                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Imnaha at Imnaha, Oregon  | 254                     | 83                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Salmon at Whitebird, Idaho  | 5,475                   | 80                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Lostine near Lostine, Oregon  | 95                      | 82                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
| Grande Ronde at LaGrande, Oregon                                      | 84                      | 48                    | April-Sept.             | 206                    |
| Clearwater at Spalding, Idaho   | 5,500                   | 64                    | April-Sept.             | 10,667                 |
| oracinator at oparating, radio  | 0,500                   |                       |                         |                        |
|   |                         |                       |                         |                        |
| LOWER COLUMBIA  | l                       | 56                    | April-Sept.             |                        |
|   | 540                     | 30                    | 1/10/1/2000             |                        |
| Yakima at CleElum, Washington 53/                                     |                         |                       |                         |                        |
|   | 540<br>870<br>485       | 50<br>54              | April-Sept. April-Sept. |                        |

#### SELECTED STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

| ADDEL | -     | 1070 |
|-------|-------|------|
| APRII | _ 1 , | 1973 |

| STREAM AND STATION   | FORECASTS   |  | Forecast Period  | Last Year's   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| STUCKLI MIND STUTTON   | Flow In<br>(1,000 A.F.)   | Percent of<br>Average  | i orecast meriod   | Flow In<br>(1,000 A.F.)   |
| LOWER COLUMBIA (continued) Walla Walla, So. Fk. near Milton, Oregon Umatilla at Pendleton, Oregon John Day, Middle Fork at Ritter, Oregon North Fork at Monument, Oregon Crooked near Post, Oregon Deschutes at Benham Falls, Oregon 40/ Columbia at The Dalles, Oregon 40/ Hood near Tucker Bridge, Oregon 40/ McKenzie near Vida, Oregon Santiam, South, at Waterloo, Oregon North, at Mehama, Oregon 40/ Clackamas at Estacada, Oregon Willamette at Salem, Oregon 40/ Lewis at Ariel, Washington 56/ Cowlitz at Castle Rock, Washington 57/  | 54<br>193<br>73<br>343<br>76<br>526<br>82,800<br>85,040<br>228<br>971<br>405<br>526<br>550<br>3,496<br>850<br>1,920 | 80<br>60<br>63<br>59<br>75<br>88<br>79<br>78<br>68<br>73<br>64<br>64<br>69<br>67<br>62<br>68   | April-Sept. April-Sept. April-Sept. April-Sept. April-Sept. April-Sept. April-Sept. January-July April-Sept. | 134,620<br>151,348  |
| NORTH PACIFIC COASTAL Dungeness near Sequim, Washington Umpqua, No., near Toketee Falls, Oregon <u>40</u> / Rogue at Raygold, Oregon Klamath Lake, Net Inflow, Oregon Trinity at Lewiston, California  | 125<br>132<br>687<br>400<br>830   | 73<br>75<br>73<br>64<br>135  | April-Sept.<br>April-Sept.<br>April-Sept.<br>April-Sept.<br>April-July   | 599<br>479  |
| CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY 40/ Sacramento, Inflow to Shasta, California Feather near Oroville, California Yuba at Smartville, California American, Inflow to Folsom Res., Calif. Cosumnes at Michigan Bar, California Mokelumne, Inflow to Pardee Res., Calif. Stanislaus, Inflow to Melones Res., Calif. Tuolumne, Inflow to Don Pedro Res., Calif. Merced, Inflow to Excheque Res., Calif. San Joaquin, Inflow to Millerton Lake, Calif. Kings, Inflow to Pine Flat Res., California Kaweah, Inflow to Terminus Res., California Tule, Inflow to Success Res., California Kern, Inflow to Isabella Res., California | 1,970 2,400 1,160 1,450 230 580 900 1,450 770 1,660 1,825 470 150 780   | 111<br>129<br>108<br>110<br>159<br>127<br>125<br>122<br>127<br>139<br>157<br>174<br>254<br>186 | April-July  | 1,621<br>1,198<br>760<br>916<br>65<br>316<br>456<br>722<br>371<br>701<br>537<br>93<br>7 |
| ALASKA<br>Chena at Fairbanks, Alaska<br>Salcha near Salchaket, Alaska  | 560<br>610  | 126<br>104   | May-June<br>May-June   | 524<br>699  |
|  |   |  |  |   |



percent above average, while storage in El Vado is over six times the normal amount.

All streams in the state are expected to yield much above average flows, generally exceeding anything since 1965 and in some cases as far back as 1958. Typical of smaller streams in the southwestern part of the state is the Mimbres near Mimbres. This is expected to produce over three times its usual flow.

Mountain and valley soil moisture is excellent.

#### COLORADO BASIN

Storms during March produced heavier than average snowfall on most watersheds of the Colorado River Basin. It was particularly heavy on the San Juan River, smaller streams in southern Utah and throughout Arizona in the Lower Basin. The month's precipitation in these areas generally ranged from near three to five times normal amounts.

The present snow cover is near 15 to 20 percent above average in the Upper Colorado Basin when considered as a whole. As usual, there is considerable variation within the Basin. Wyoming tributaries to the Green River hold the lightest snowpack. The snow here is about half of what it was last year and near three-fourths of average. Moving south of here into Colorado it increases to about 5 to 10 percent less than average of the Yampa, White and Upper Colorado drainages. It is above average on all other watersheds, with the Dolores River showing the greatest amount at 163 percent.

Soil moisture conditions are generally much above average.

Water supplies should be generally adequate in Wyoming in spite of the below normal runoff expected in the Upper Green River. Although the Yampa, White, Upper Colorado and Upper Gunnison rivers will yield near average to 10 percent less than average amounts, water will be adequate for most needs. Water outlook is excellent for the rest of the Basin.

Snow on the Upper Green River is expected to yield an April-July inflow to Flaming Gorge Reservoir which will be 9 percent below average. Flow at Green River, Utah should be essentially average, while at Cisco, Utah the Colorado River is forecast at 22 percent above average. Forecast for the San Juan River near Bluff, Utah is much higher, at 153 percent of average. Combined flow of these three main tributaries indicates a prospective April-July inflow to Lake Powell of 118 percent. Other streams where flows are expected to range from about a third to a half more than usual include the Animas, Dolores, Duchesne, Price and Uncompahgre rivers. Reservoir storage in the Upper Basin is good.

In the Lower Colorado Basin the Virgin River near Virgin, Utah is forecast at 237 percent average, while the Santa Clara will yield near five and a half times its usual amount. The Arizona water supply is excellent with all major storage reservoirs except San Carlos expected to fill. Water is being released from Salt River Project reservoirs to provide storage space for the snowmelt runoff. Releases are expected to continue thru April.

STORAGE IN LARGE RESERVOIRS APRIL 1, 1973 STORAGE STORAGE BASIN AND NAME CAPACITY STORAGE BASIN AND NAME CAPACITY (1,000 A.F.) OF RESERVOIR (1.000 A.F.) OF RESERVOIR (1.000 A.F.) (1.000 A.F.) UPPER MISSOURI UPPER COLUMBIA Belle Fourche 185 164 170 Chelan 676 121 72 550 247 Coeur d'Alene 225 84 54 Boysen 67 373 170 132 1,347 Buffalo Bill Duncan Canvon Ferry 2,043 1,462 95 F1athead 1,791 669 90 16,190 147 2,029 98 Fort Peck 19,410 Hungry Horse 3,428 24,790 20,300 673 Garrison 186 Kootenav 140 84 377 254 144 Lake Koocanusa 4,965 273 Hebgen . - -Kevhole 192 159 414 Lower Arrow 3,083 468 118 5,816 Noxon Rapids 335 149 Lake Francis Case 4,193 111 79 Lake Sharp 1,900 1,764 407 Pend Oreille 1,155 315 74 Oahe 23,630 19,167 152 Roosevelt 5,232 1,546 66 494 Tiber 1,347 77 Upper Arrow 4,061 394 46 893 125 Big Horn 1,356 LOWER COLUMBIA **PLATTE** 155 57 Cougar . - -City of Denver (5) 518 387 100 Detroit 300 111 65 Green Peter Colo-Big Thompson (3) 718 525 124 270 151 71 G1endo 784 437 126 Hills Creek 200 85 Lookout Point Pathfinder 1,016 933 220 337 66 34 Prineville 1,010 172 Seminoe 491 131 113 153 Wickiup 200 200 103 ARKANSAS Yakima Res. (5) 822 1,066 115 SNAKE Conchas 273 145 90 John Martin 354 20 80 American Falls 1,700 1,115 70 RIO GRANDE Anderson Ranch 423 301 142 Arrowrock 287 279 118 2,195 584 Elephant Butte 373 112 Brownlee 980 165 195 653 372 137 El vado 633 Cascade 38 Jackson 847 640 149 UPPER COLORADO Lucky Peak 278 226 183 Owyhee 715 703 147 Blue Mesa 830 309 1,200 911 125 Palisades 2,894 Flaming Gorge 3,749 235 Warm Springs 191 124 106 1,696 Navajo 973 Powell 25,002 11,966 232 PACIFIC COASTAL Starvation 152 124 \_\_\_ 2,448 2,133 97 Clear Engle LOWER COLORADO Clear Lake 440 323 129 Havasu 619 574 103 Nacimiento 350 306 157 Ross 1,203 26,159 19,980 124 734 103 Mead Mohave 1,810 1,679 99 Upper Klamath 584 495 106 Salt River Res. (4) 1,755 1,667 166 949 665 San Carlos 564 CALIFORNIA CENTRAL Verde River Res. (2) 318 277 211 VALLEY GREAT BASIN 101 Almanor 1,036 726 1,602 Berryessa 1,621 103 1,421 1,064 Bear 119 Bullards Bar 930 538 93 1,010 Lahontan 314 263 122 642 104 Folsom. Rye Patch 179 187 221 Isabella 570 90 50 Sevier Bridge 236 149 McClure 558 143 1,026 96 Strawberry 274 185 150 Millerton 145 521 479 125 Tahoe 732 542 Droville 3,484 2,982 107 Utah 884 827 Pine Flat 138 1,013 584 96 Willard Bay 293 168 Shasta 4,500 3,986 103

Reservoir Storage Data Provided by Bureau of Reclamation , Corps of Engineers, Geological Survey. and water using organizations. Data from California and British Columbia provided by Department of Water Resources and Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, respectively.

Snow cover is three times average on the Gila River, five times average on the Salt, and almost nine times average on the Verde.

Salt River Project streams are predicted to produce 772,000 acre-feet during April-May, about four times average. The total January through May runoff is expected to be 1,780,000 acre-feet, or the highest yield since 1941. Flow of the Little Colorado River is also expected to be high, near three and a half times average.

#### GREAT BASIN

With the exception of a few watersheds in the Bear River drainages, Oregon's Lake County and northern watersheds of the Harney Basin, all other parts of the Great Basin hold an above average snowpack. Combined with high carryover reservoir storage, this promises excellent water supplies next summer for all areas in Utah and Nevada.

In Oregon the outlook is poor for the Silvies River near Burns (forecast at 52 percent of average) and for the Chewaucan near Paisley (forecast at 59 percent). Outlook for Donner und Blitzen near Frenchglen, Oregon is better at 109 percent.

Snow cover in Utah ranges from 83 percent on the Logan River in the north to seven times average on Scholl Creek above Enterprise Reservoir in the south. Snow, that would have normally melted by mid-March, remains at low elevations in central and southern sections of Utah. Utah's Ogden River and Oquirrh Mountains hold double their normal snowpack. A number of the snow courses in both states have set new record high readings.

In Nevada water users on the Humboldt River can anticipate the flow at Palisade to be slightly more than a third above average. On the lower Humboldt, storage in Rye Patch Reservoir completely full (221 percent of average) and storing above normal capacity behind flash boards. Water supplies this summer will be excellent, with heavy carryover for next year.

The Truckee, Carson and Walker rivers are generally forecast to flow 115 to 130 percent of average amounts. Streams in the Surprise Valley area should yield 10 to 40 percent more than their normal quantities. The watershed near Austin has the most snow measured since records began in 1941. Near Ely the snow is 145 percent, while near Las Vegas it is 286 percent normal. Nevada's reservoirs now hold storage which is 37 percent above average.

Forecasts for Utah streams range from near average for the Logan River in the north to two to over five times average for some southern watersheds. Storage in Utah's irrigation

reservoirs is 129 percent of average. The U.S. Geological Survey reports that Great Salt Lake is 8.95 feet higher than the all time low measured in October 1963 and is the highest it has been since July 1953. It will continue its rise with this year's snowmelt runoff.

Outlook for California's Owens Valley continues very good, with the Owens River forecast to yield nearly a fourth more than normal.

Areas where the snowpacks are exceptionally heavy will need to take extra precautions to prevent undue damage from the snowmelt water.

#### COLUMBIA BASIN

Although March snowfall was below normal in much of Oregon, Washington and western Montana, it was near or slightly above normal on major water producing areas of British Columbia and Idaho.

Snow cover now ranges between about 40 to 90 percent of normal, except in southern Idaho where most watersheds hold normal to a third above normal amounts. A few small isolated areas in southeastern Oregon and northwestern Nevada have snow which goes as high as twice normal. However, these are generally at low elevations.

Fortunately, as reported by The British Columbia Water Resources Service, in the main water producing areas of British Columbia the snow is more favorable than in most of the principle water producing areas south of the International boundary. Snow ranges from about 85 to 90 percent average on British Columbia's upper and lower Columbia, and on the west Kootenay. It is less favorable on the Similkameen, Kettle and East Kootenay, being near or slightly above 70 percent.

Lowest snow cover in the Basin was measured on the Palouse River, at 17 percent of average. Snow is near half of average along the Cascade Mountains in Oregon, northward into Washington as far as the Wenatchee River, on Oregon's lower John Day and Umatilla rivers and on Idaho's Spokane River.

The snowpack is near 60 to 80 percent across northern Washington, Idaho's Priest River and on all of western Montana. This snow belt then swings southwest across the Clearwater, Salmon, Payette, Big and Little Lost, Big Wood and Boise rivers in Idaho. In Oregon it extends from the Imnaha to the Malheur and includes the upper John Day, the Crooked and upper Deschutes rivers. Wyoming's part of the Snake River is also included.

As indicated by the snowpack, streamflow prospects for the coming spring and summer are

among the lowest in recent years. Storage in irrigation reservoirs remains above normal and will generally supply adequate water for those having access to them. Water users dependent on direct streamflow will experience definite shortages during the summer and especially during the late summer unless abnormally heavy rains come at that time.

Runoff forecasts range from about one-half average on streams such as the Yakima, Spokane, Grande Ronde and Burnt rivers, to two-thirds or three-fourths of average for most other streams. Most southern tributaries to the Snake River should yield near 5 to 20 percent above their usual amounts.

Flow of the Columbia River at The Dalles is expected to be about three-fourths of its normal amount.

Because of the low streamflow, some power reservoirs are not expected to fill. The amount of electric water power production is expected to be adversely affected.

#### ALASKA

March snowfall over most of the State's watersheds, where snow surveys are conducted, was near average. The result is that mountain snowpacks are generally unchanged when compared to normal.

The Long River drainage at Snettishan Project near Juneau is the one notable exception. Heavy March precipitation has boosted the snow-pack above last year's record breaking level. This area is now at 126 percent of normal - the most measured in eight years of surveys.

Elsewhere the Copper and Kuskokwim rivers have the state's lowest snowpack at 65 and 68 percent of normal, respectively. Snow cover on the Upper Yukon is near average, as it also is on streams draining into Upper Cook Inlet. The Susitna River snowpack is now 13 percent above normal.

#### CALIFORNIA

The California Department of Water Resources, coordinating agency for snow surveys and water supply forecasting in California, reports that April snow surveys indicate 1973 will be a year with more than adequate water supplies in nearly all areas of the State. The continuation through March of cool, wet weather has increased snow stored water to well above average amounts in all watersheds.

Precipitation during March favored the central portion of the State with heaviest amounts recorded in the Lower San Joaquin Valley and South Coastal areas. Storm waves were persist-

ent during the month, but followed erratic patterns over California. Storm tracks seemed to concentrate more along the coastal and central areas of the State producing heavy amounts of precipitation in the form of snow at midelevations in these areas. Below normal precipitation was experienced over the Lahontan area and the Northern Sierra. For the sixmonth water year to date, only the North Coastal area has not received normal precipitation.

Snow water content ranges from average in the Shasta River Basin of the North Coastal area to an impressive 250 percent of average in the mid-elevations of the Kaweah River's snow zone. Snow accumulation has favored the lower elevations and snow water content in the Kern, Kaweah, Kings, and Tule River Basins is greater in percentage of normal than at the higher elevations. Snow densities throughout the Sierra are comparatively light for this date, averaging 35 to 40 percent density and indicating that some pack "ripening" must occur before sustained snowmelt commences.

Runoff in March was slightly above average on a statewide basis but varied widely in amount due to the uneven precipitation patterns. The varied amount of runoff is illustrated by comparing the Lahontan area which produced only 75 percent of average March runoff to the Central Coastal area where runoff for the month approached 200 percent of average. The unusually heavy deposition of snow in the 6,000 to 8,000 mid-elevation band may melt away rapidly if extended periods of warm weather occur. Rapid snowmelt could produce peak runoffs and flooding conditions along the smaller east side streams of the Southern San Joaquin Valley.

Reservoir storage in 121 of California's major reservoirs was average for April 1. However, this statewide value is influenced by much above average storage in all coastal reservoirs. Sacramento Valley reservoirs are storing average amounts for this date and reservoirs in the San Joaquin Valley are now storing 90 percent of average April 1 amounts. Adequate storage space to control expected snowmelt runoff is available in all reservoirs and a general improvement in Central Valley storage is expected as warm weather begins. Storage in Colorado River reservoirs is 125 percent of average for April 1.

Forecasts of water supplies for California are presently calling for about 125 percent of average water year amounts. All river basins will produce at least average runoff. In the Central Valley the forecast values range from 115 percent of average for the Pit River inflow to Shasta Lake, to 195 percent of average for the Tule River inflow to Success Reservoir.



### EXPLANATION of STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

- All flows are observed flows except as adjusted for: 1/Storage change in Lake Sherburne. 2/Storage change in Lima and Clark Canyon reservoirs. 3/Storage change in Hebgen Lake. 1/Storage change in Gibson Reservoir and measured diversions. 5/Storage change in Two Medicine, Four Horns, Lake Francis and Swift reservoirs. 6/Storage change in Canyon Ferry and Tiber reservoirs. 7/Changes as indicated in (6/), (8/), plus storage change in Fort Peck. 8/Storage change in Boysen, Buffalo Bill and Yellowtail reservoirs. 9/Storage change in Buffalo Bill Reservoir plus Heart Mountain diversion. 10/Storage change in Pilot Butte and Bull Lake reservoirs plus Wyoming canal diversion.
- 11/ Changes indicated in (10/) plus storage change in Boysen Reservoir. 12/ Plus diversions to Cache LaPoudre. 13/ Plus by-pass to power plants. 14/ Minus diversion thru Gumlick Tunnel. 15/ Storage change in Price Reservoir. 16/ Minus diversions from North Platte, Laramie and Colorado rivers plus measured diversions above station. 17/ Storage change in Clear Creek, Twin Lakes and Turquoise reservoirs minus diversions from Colorado River. 18/ Storage change in Rio Grande, Santa Maria and Continental reservoirs. 19/ Storage change in El Vado and Abiquiu reservoirs. 20/ Storage change in Platoro Reservoir.
- 21/ Storage change in Grandby Reservoir as furnished by U.S.B.R. plus diversions by Adams Tunnel and Grand River Ditch. 22/ Changes as indicated in (21/) plus diversions thru Roberts, Gumlick and Moffat tunnels and storage change in Dillon, Homestake, Williams Fork, Green Mountain and Willow Creek reservoirs. 23/ Changes indicated in (22/) and (26/).
  24/ Storage change in Blue Mesa Reservoir. 25/ Changes indicated in (24/), (30/) and (35/) and storage change in Lake Powell. 26/ Diversions to Arkansas River plus storage change in Ruedi Reservoir. 27/ (Inflow record as computed by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.) 28/ Storage change in Taylor, Blue Mesa and Morrow Point reservoirs. 29/ Storage change in Fontenelle Reservoir. 30/ Storage change in Flaming Gorge Reservoir.
- 31/ Plus diversion through Duchesne Tunnel. 32/ Storage change in Moon Lake Reservoir.
  33/ Storage change in Scofield Reservoir. 34/ Storage change in Joe's Valley Reservoir.
  35/ Storage change in Navajo Reservoir. 36/ Plus U. P. & L. Co. tailrace and Logan, Hyde Park and Smithfield canals. 37/ Minus diversions thru Duchesne Tunnel and Weber-Provo Canal.
  38/ Storage change in Lake Tahoe and Boca reservoirs (Forecast by Truckee Basin Committee.)
  39/ Storage change in Bridgeport Reservoir. 40/ Corrected for major upstream impairments -represents simulated natural flow conditions.
- 41/ Storage change in Priest Lake. 42/ Storage change in Coeur d'Alene Lake and diversions by Spokane Valley Farms Co. and Rathrum Prairie canals. 43/ Storage change in Lake Chelan. 44/ Storage change in Jackson Lake. 45/ Storage change in Jackson Lake and Palisade reservoirs. 46/ Storage change in Jackson Lake, Palisades, Island Park, Henry's Lake, Grassy Lake plus diversions between Heise and Blackfoot. 47/ Storage change in Henry's Lake and Island Park reservoirs. 48/ Storage change in MacKay Reservoir and diversion in Sharp Ditch. 49/ Combined flow Big Wood near Bellevue and Camas Creek near Blaine. 50/ Storage change in Arrowrock, Anderson Ranch and Lucky Peak reservoirs.
- 51/ Storage change in Wild Horse Reservoir. 52/ Storage change in Cascade and Deadwood reservoirs. 53/ Storage change in Keechelus, Kachess and CleElum reservoirs plus diversion by Kittitas Canal. 54/ Changes indicated in (52/) plus storage change in Bumping and Rimrock Lakes plus diversion by Roza, Union Gap, New Reservation, Old Reservation and Sunrise canals. 55/ Storage change in Bumping and Rimrock lakes and diversions by Tieton, Selah Valley, Wapatox canals and City of Yakima. 56/ Storage change in Merwin, Yale and Swift reservoirs. 57/ Storage change in Mayfield Reservoir.

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